

Mr Mark Johnston  
Senior Executive Engineer  
Monahan County Council  
The Glen  
Monaghan

21 July 2011

D0458-01

re: Notice in accordance with Regulation 18(3)(b) of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007

Dear Mr Johnston

I am to refer to the above referenced application for a waste water discharge licence relating to agglomeration named **Newbliss**. Having examined the documentation submitted, I am to advise that the Agency is of the view that the documentation does not comply with Regulation 16 of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007.

You are therefore requested, in accordance with Regulation 18(3)(b) of the regulations, to take the steps to supply the information detailed below:

## **REGULATION 16 COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Section A: Non-technical Summary**

- Update the non-technical summary to reflect the information provided in response to this notice.

### **Section B: General**

- Provide details on how much of the current load to the waste water treatment plant (WWTP) is from a domestic source and how much is from a non-domestic source.
- Clarify whether the works in planning File Reference No. 03/8018 have been completed. Provide details on a programme of improvements planned, if applicable. Provide details of the planning permission, including reference number and conditions attached to the permission.
- Provide confirmation from the Planning Authority that, in the grant of planning approval, no Environmental Impact Statement was required in relation to the Newbliss waste water treatment plant.
- Clarify the number of septic tanks and biofilters at the WWTP. Clarify the location of the primary discharge point and the secondary discharge point. Submit an updated Drawing No. 7 entitled *Waste water treatment plant general arrangement of treatment plant* accordingly
- Provide the following details for the secondary discharge point
  - Type of discharge point, e.g. diffuser, lunar valve, etc.
  - Unique reference for the secondary discharge point
  - Location of secondary discharge point.
  - Irish National Grid references for point of discharge (12-digit grid reference: 6E, 6N)
  - Geo-referenced digital drawing file (e.g. USDT Shapefile, MapInfo, Tab, AutoCAD or other upon agreement) in Irish National Grid projection of the discharge point, including labelled emission, monitoring and sampling points associated with each secondary discharge point

### **Section C: Infrastructure and Operation**

- Provide details, if available, on the design discharge concentration for total phosphorus and ammonia as N for the existing WWTP (1,000 p.e.).
- An emergency overflow is identified at the WWTP, clarify the location of the emergency overflow in the WWTP and where this emergency overflow discharges, include grid references. Confirm whether this is an emergency overflow or a storm water overflow.
- Clarify whether the emergency overflow from the storm water tank at the WWTP has been known to activate in the last 12 months. If so provide the reason for the activation, and give details of the frequency, duration and discharge volumes, where available.
- Clarify whether there are any combined sewer overflows (CSO's) on the network. If there are, provide reference numbers, names and details on where the CSO's overflow, for example the name of the receiving water.
- Assess the design criteria of the storm water overflows. Demonstrate (providing available evidence) whether all storm water overflows meet the design criteria established in '*Procedures and Criteria for Storm Water Overflows*', published by the Dept. of the Environment, 1995. Clarify whether there are screens on all of the overflows and identify any SWOs that may be impacting on surface water quality. Where a storm water overflow does not comply with these guidelines, give details of the plans, for improvement.
- Clarify the capacity of the storm water holding tank.
- Clarify whether there is an emergency overflow facility to a receiving water at the pumping station.
- Clarify how wastewater is collected in the agglomeration, for example combined or separate foul sewage drainage network.

### **Section D: Discharges to the Aquatic Environment**

- Provide date(s) when all the monitoring reported in Table D1(i)(b) and Table D.1(i)(c) was carried out.
- The Agency notes that monitoring data provided in Table D.1 (i)(b) for the Newbliss primary discharge point SW1(P) for suspended solids (S.S) is 105 mg/l and for BOD is 54 mg/l, which exceeds the design limit of the WWTP of 10 mg/l BOD and 10 mg/l S.S. Explain the cause of the exceedances and advise on what measures are in place to rectify this matter. The response to this matter should include details of a programme of improvements in relation to the high S.S and BOD with timescales for implementation.

### **Section E: Monitoring**

- Provide effluent, influent, upstream and downstream monitoring data from May 2009 to date.
- Confirm the hardness (as CaCO<sub>3</sub>) of the receiving water upstream and downstream of the primary discharge point to determine compliance with the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009, S.I. No. 272 of 2009.

#### Section F: Existing Environment & Impact of the discharges (s)

- Demonstrate that the effluent discharge, via the primary discharge point, to the receiving water does not cause an exceedance of the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 for parameters including BOD, total ammonia and molybdate reactive phosphorus (MRP). If there is a breach of the relevant water quality standards, then review the need for a programme of improvements and submit the details accordingly.
- Determine if there is likely to be a significant impact from the waste water discharges from the Newbliss agglomeration on the relevant *European Sites*

You are requested to use the EPA guidance note: *Waste Water Discharge Licensing - Appropriate Assessment* when completing your determination. This guidance is available on the EPA website [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie) (see Downloads\Forms\Licensing & Permitting\Waste Water Discharge Authorisation). Each step of Stage 1 Screening should be completed and the results of each step recorded.

If based on the above determination (Stage 1) there is likely to be a significant effect on a *European site(s)* then an Appropriate Assessment (Stage 2) must be carried out. Where it is considered that an Appropriate Assessment is not required, provide a reasoned response.

You should also refer to Circular L8/08 'Water Services Investment and Rural Water Programmes - Protection of Natural Heritage and National Monuments' issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to assist in this determination, in particular, the flow diagram in Appendix 1.

Your reply to this notice should include a revised non-technical summary which reflects the information you supply in compliance with the notice, insofar as that information impinges on the non-technical summary.

In the case where any drawings already submitted are subject to revision consequent on this request, a revised drawing should be prepared in each case. It is not sufficient to annotate the original drawing with a textual correction. Where such revised drawings are submitted, provide a list of drawing titles, drawing numbers and revision status, which correlates the revised drawings with the superseded versions.

Please supply the information in the form of a one original plus one copy within **eight** weeks of the date of this notice. In addition please submit one copy of the requested information in electronic searchable PDF format on a CD-ROM (no file to exceed 10MB) to the Agency. Please note that all maps/drawings should not exceed A3 in size.

Please note that the application's register number is D0458-01. Please direct all correspondence in relation to this matter to *Administration, Environmental Licensing Programme, Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use, Environmental Protection Agency, Headquarters, PO Box 3000, Johnstown Castle Estate, County Wexford* quoting the register number

Yours sincerely



Jennifer Cope

Inspector

Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use

